

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-14, 16, 18, 19, 21, and 22 are now pending in the present application, with claims 1, 7, 14, and 19 being independent. Claims 1, 3, 6-9, 12, 14, 16, 18, 19, 21 and 22 are amended herein. Claims 2, 15, 17, and 20 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter cited therein.

Applicant requests favorable consideration of the subject application and withdrawal of the objection and rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim 7 was objected to for an alleged error regarding the reader and corresponding sample image. Without conceding the propriety of this objection, Claim 7 has been revised. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to Claim 7 are requested.

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 14, 15, and 17-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,184,082 (Yokokawa). Claims 5, 11, 13, and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Yokokawa in combination with U.S. Patent No. 6,252,625 (Hibino et al.). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

With the present invention, a user can ascertain with which sample image the electronic image data will be associated simply by viewing the monitor. Furthermore, the user can determine the association prior to saving the electronic image data, i.e., the user can associate an object image yet to be photographed with a sample image.

Yokohawa discloses a camera wherein a plurality of photographed images may be displayed side-by-side on monitor. However, Yokohawa does not disclose or suggest a monitor that simultaneously displays a selected sample image and an object image based upon electronic image data, as recited in Claims 1, 7, 14 and 19. As such, the apparatus taught by Yokohawa

does not allow a user to know with which sample image an object image will be associated prior to photographing the object image.

Thus, Yokokawa fails to disclose or suggest important features of the present invention recited in the independent claims.

Hibino discloses a film image reading apparatus that captures thumbnail images and reads exposure and white balance values. However, Hibino does not disclose or suggest the simultaneous display of both a sample image and an object image to be photographed. Therefore, Hibino fails to compensate for the deficiencies in Yokohawa as described above.

Thus, Claims 1, 7, 14, and 19 are patentable over the citations of record.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 and § 103 rejections are requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably defined by independent Claims 1, 7, 14, and 19. Dependent Claims 3-6, 8-13, 16, 18, 19, 21, and 22 are also allowable, in their own right, for defining features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is requested.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the objection and rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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